

INTERIM TRANSLATIONS
OF THE MASSES OF
THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

BOOK 1

Advent to Shrovetide

Prepared by the
NATIONAL LITURGICAL COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND & WALES

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INTERIM TRANSLATIONS FROM THE
NEW ROMAN MISSAL

THIS STUDY BOOKLET of translations of the Masses in the new Roman Missal has been prepared by the Episcopal Commission for Liturgy and is presented to the clergy and people of England and Wales for their comments and criticism. It is an interim translation and is not to be regarded as a definitive version.

The object of the translators has been to produce something which preserves our English tradition and idiom, yet at the same time avoids archaic expression which might be meaningless to people at the present time.

Comments on the translation as a whole and on specific points should in the first place be sent to the local diocesan Liturgical Commissions.



Secretary,

1st Sunday of Advent, 1971

National Liturgical Commission

CONCLUSION OF THE COLLECT

The following is the usual conclusion:

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

When the prayer is addressed to God the Father but the Son is mentioned at the end of the prayer, the following conclusion is used:

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

When the prayer is addressed to God the Son, the following conclusion is used:

(You) who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

I N D E X

BOOK I—*Advent to Shrovetide*

Season of Advent	...	...	...	...	page	3 to 14
Christmastide	...	...	...	...	„	14 to 25
Sundays of the Year	...	...	...	...	„	26 to 31
Proper of the Saints	...	...	...	...	„	32 to 46
Common of the Saints	...	...	...	...	„	47 to 54
Votive Masses	...	...	...	...	„	55/56
Prefaces	...	...	...	...	„	57 to 66
Alternative Preface Openings and Conclusions	...	...	...	...	„	67/68
Solemn Blessings	...	...	...	...	„	69 to 72

BOOK II—*Lent and Eastertide*

Season of Lent	...	...	...	...	page	75 to 102
<i>(except Palm Sunday and the Sacred Triduum)</i>						
Eastertide	...	...	...	...	„	103 to 126
Proper of the Saints	...	...	...	...	„	127 to 141
Common of the Saints	...	...	...	...	„	142/143
Votive Masses	...	...	...	...	„	144 to 147
Prefaces	...	...	...	...	„	148 to 151
Solemn Blessings	...	...	...	...	„	152 to 157
Final Prayers over the People	...	...	...	...	„	158 to 160

BOOK III—*After Pentecost*

Proper of the Time	...	...	...	...	page	163 to 183
The Most Holy Trinity	...	...	...	...	„	180
Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ	...	...	...	...	„	181
The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	...	...	...	...	„	181
Our Lord Jesus Christ the King	...	...	...	...	„	183
Proper of the Saints	...	...	...	...	„	184 to 231
Common Masses	...	...	...	...	„	232 to 243
Votive Masses	...	...	...	...	„	244 to 251
Prefaces	...	...	...	...	„	252 to 255
Solemn Blessings	...	...	...	...	„	256 to 260
Final Prayers over the People	...	...	...	...	„	<i>Inside back cover</i>

NOTE—*In this series of books certain page numbers are followed by asterisks. One asterisk after a page number indicates that the text is in Book I; two asterisks indicates that the text is in Book II.*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Entry antiphon

I have lifted up my heart to you, my God.
I trust in you; I shall not be put to shame.
Do not let my enemies mock me,
for no one who relies on you will be disappointed.

Collect

Almighty God, grant us the will to greet our Saviour with our good works when he comes, so that we may be worthy to be on his right hand and possess the kingdom of heaven. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the gifts we offer, which we have first received from you. You have given us the Mass as a means of grace in this life: may it bring us the reward of eternal salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent I (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

The Lord will show us his goodness,
and our earth will yield its fruit.

Post-Communion

You have given us, Lord, your sacrament to help us in this changing world to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures for ever. We have received it today: grant that it may be a source of grace for us. Through Christ our Lord.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Entry antiphon

Behold, people of Sion, the Lord will come to save the nations.
The Lord in his glory will make his voice heard
and fill your hearts with joy.

Collect

Almighty and merciful God, grant that the anxieties of this life may not impede us as we hasten to meet your Son. Fill us instead with your heavenly wisdom so that we may come to be united with him: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be moved to pity, Lord, by the prayers and offerings which we unworthy sinners make to you; and though of ourselves we have no claim on your favour, in your mercy help and strengthen us. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent I (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Arise, Jerusalem, and stand upon the hilltops.
See the joy that is coming to you from your God.

Post-Communion

You have nourished us, Lord, with the bread of heaven. May this sacrament teach us to weigh carefully the things of this world and to love the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Entry antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, Rejoice.
The Lord is at hand.

Collect

O God, you see your people trustfully waiting for the feast of your Son's birth. Help us to experience the happiness of the salvation he brings, and to recall it in our liturgy with eagerness and joy. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, grant us the grace ever to be devout in offering you the sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may experience within ourselves the power of the salvation you have won for us. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent I or II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Tell the fainthearted: "Be brave and strong.
Look, our God is coming, and he will save us."

Post-Communion

In your mercy, Lord, grant our prayer that this sacrament may free us from our faults and make us worthy to celebrate the feast that is approaching. Through Christ our Lord.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Entry antiphon

Sprinkle your dew, you heavens, from above,
and let the clouds rain down the Just one;
let the earth open and give birth to the Saviour.

Collect

Lord, enlighten our minds with your grace. You revealed to us through the message of an angel the incarnation of Christ your Son; lead us through his passion and cross to the glory of the resurrection. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, your Spirit filled the Blessed Virgin's womb with his

power. Grant that the same Spirit may sanctify the offerings we have placed on your altar. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Behold, a virgin will conceive and give birth to a son,
and he will be called Emmanuel.

Post-Communion

Almighty God, we have received the pledge of eternal salvation. As we draw closer to the feast of the day that brought our salvation, grant that we may grow more worthy of celebrating this mystery of your Son's birth: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

MONDAYS IN ADVENT (before 17th December)

Entry antiphon

Hear the word of the Lord, you nations,
and proclaim it to the ends of the earth.
Behold, our Saviour is at hand:
fear no more.

Collect—Week 1

O Lord our God, help us to look eagerly for the coming of our Saviour. When he arrives and knocks, may he find us awake and at prayer, singing his praises with joy: who lives and reigns with you.

Collect—Week 2

May our prayer, Lord, rise to you like incense, so that we may come with purified hearts to celebrate the incarnation of your Son: who lives and reigns with you.

Collect—Week 3

In your goodness, Lord, listen to our prayer; may the grace of your Son at his coming bring light to the darkness of our hearts. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the gifts we offer, which we have first received from you. You have given us the Mass as a means of grace in this life: may it bring us the reward of eternal salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent I (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Lord, come to us and bring us your peace,
so that with contented hearts we may rejoice in your presence.

Post-Communion

You have given us, Lord, your sacrament to help us in this

changing world to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures for ever. We have received it today: grant that it may be a source of grace for us. Through Christ our Lord.

TUESDAYS IN ADVENT (before 17th December)

Entry antiphon

Behold the Lord is coming, and with him all his saints.

On that day there will be great light.

Collect—Week 1

Listen favourably, Lord, to our prayers and help us in our need. The coming of your Son brings us comfort: grant that we may be freed from the taint of our old habits of sin. Through our Lord.

Collect—Week 2

O God, you have proclaimed your salvation to the whole world: grant that we may look forward with joy to our Saviour's glorious birth: who lives and reigns with you.

Collect—Week 3

O God, through your Son you have made of us a new creation. You have shown us your mercy: have pity on us once more, and cleanse us from all our old faults through the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be moved to pity, Lord, by the prayers and offerings which we unworthy sinners make to you; and though of ourselves we have no claim on your favour, in your mercy help and strengthen us. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent I (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

The just judge will give the crown of righteousness
to those who long for his coming.

Post-Communion

You have nourished us, Lord, with the bread of heaven. May this sacrament teach us to weigh carefully the things of this world and to love the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT (before 17th December)

Entry antiphon

The Lord will come, he will not delay.

He will bring to light that which is in darkness,
and reveal himself to all the world.

Collect—Week 1

O Lord our God, prepare our hearts through your grace, so that when your Son comes, he may find us worthy to share with him

eternal life and to be his guests at the heavenly table. Through our Lord.

Collect—Week 2

Almighty God, you have told us to prepare the way for Christ our Lord. Grant that our infirmities may not overcome us, for we have the comforting presence of the heavenly physician to support us: who lives and reigns with you.

Collect—Week 3

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that your Son's coming feast may apply to us the healing we need in this life and confer on us the rewards of heaven. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, grant us the grace ever to be devout in offering you the sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may experience within ourselves the power of the salvation you have won for us. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent I (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Behold, our Lord is coming in power and majesty.

He will bring light to the eyes of his servants.

Post-Communion

In your mercy, Lord, grant our prayer that this sacrament may free us from our faults and make us worthy to celebrate the feast that is approaching. Through Christ our Lord.

THURSDAYS IN ADVENT (before 17th December)

Entry antiphon

You are near at hand, Lord, and all your ways are truth;

long have I known your word that you remain for ever.

Collect—Week 1

Come to our assistance, Lord, with all your power and strength. In spite of all our sins, let your merciful grace hasten the work of our redemption: who lives and reigns with you.

Collect—Week 2

Arouse our hearts, Lord, to make the way ready for your Son, so that his coming may purify our souls and enable us to serve you. Through our Lord.

Collect—Week 3

We are unworthy servants, Lord; our sins grieve us. Heal us and comfort us by the coming of your Son: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the gifts we offer, which we have first received

from you. You have given us the Mass as a means of grace in this life: may it bring us the reward of eternal salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent I (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Let us live upright and holy lives in this world,
awaiting our blessed hope,
the coming of the glory of our great God.

Post-Communion

You have given us, Lord, your sacrament to help us, in this changing world, to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures for ever. We have received it today; grant that it may be a source of grace for us. Through Christ our Lord.

FRIDAYS IN ADVENT (before 17th December)

Entry antiphon

Behold, the Lord will come down in all his splendour
to give his people peace and bring them eternal life.

Collect—Week 1

Come to us, Lord, with all your power. Our sins put us in peril: protect us and set us free: you who live and reign with God the Father.

Collect—Week 2

Almighty God, grant us, your people, to be watchful as we wait for the coming of your Son, so that, when our Saviour comes, we may hasten, as he commanded, to meet him with lamps alight: who lives and reigns with you.

Collect—Week 3

Almighty God, we wait longingly for your Son's coming. Give us your grace always to move and sustain us, and grant us all the help we need for this life and the next. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be moved to pity, Lord, by the prayers and offerings which we unworthy sinners make to you; and though of ourselves we have no claim on your favour, in your mercy help and strengthen us. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent I (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

We wait for a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ,
who will make our mortal body like his own in glory.

Post-Communion

You have nourished us, Lord, with the bread of heaven. May this sacrament teach us to weigh carefully the things of this world and to love the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

SATURDAYS IN ADVENT (before 17th December)

Entry antiphon

Come, Lord, from your throne above the cherubim;
let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Collect—Week 1

O God, you sent your Son into the world to free the human race from its former sinfulness. As we faithfully wait for his coming, fill our hearts with your grace so that we may live in true freedom and attain its reward. Through our Lord.

Collect—Week 2

Almighty God, grant that the brightness of your glory may dawn in our hearts and dispel all the darkness of the night. Let your Son's coming reveal us as children of the light. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, grant us the grace ever to be devout in offering you the sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may experience within ourselves the power of the salvation you have won for us. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent I (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Behold, I am coming soon, says the Lord,
to repay each according to his deeds.

Post-Communion

In your mercy, Lord, grant our prayer that this sacrament may free us from our faults and make us worthy to celebrate the feast that is approaching. Through Christ our Lord.

WEEKDAYS OF ADVENT (from 17th December)

17th DECEMBER

Entry antiphon

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth sing for joy.
The Lord will come and comfort his people in their affliction.

Collect

O God, creator and redeemer of mankind, you decreed that your divine Word should take the nature of man in the Virgin's womb. Grant that your Son, by virtue of his incarnation, may enable us to share in his godhead: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Sanctify, Lord, the gifts of your Church and grant that through this sacrifice we may be counted worthy to eat the Bread of Heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Behold, there will come One whom all the world desires;
and he will fill the Lord's house with his glory.

Post-Communion

Almighty God, you have given us the bread of heaven and set our hearts on fire with your Spirit. Grant us this gift we long for, that when your Son comes, he may find our lamps still burning: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

18th DECEMBER

Entry antiphon

Christ our king is near at hand,
the Lamb of God whom John proclaimed.

Collect

Almighty God, we are weighed down by the chains of our sins; we look to the birth of your Son to set us free: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, it was to free us from death that your Son took on our mortal nature. Grant that this sacrifice may win us your favour, and make us fit to share in his eternal life. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

He will be called Emmanuel,
a name which means God-with-us.

Post-Communion

Show us your mercy, Lord, in your temple, and help us to prepare with due honour for the coming feast of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

19th DECEMBER

Entry antiphon

He who is coming will come without delay.
There will be no more fear among our people,
for he is our Saviour.

Collect

O God, through the child born of the Blessed Virgin you revealed to the world the splendour of your glory. Help us to preserve undiminished our faith in the great mystery of the Incarnation, that it may remain for ever the centre of our lives. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Look kindly, Lord, upon the gifts which we place on your altar.

We offer them in our weakness: consecrate them with your power
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

He will visit us like the dawn from on high,
and guide our steps along the way of peace.

Post-Communion

Almighty God, we thank you for the gifts you have given us.
Help us to long for the fulfilment of the feast which is near, so that
with purified hearts we may welcome our Saviour's birth: who lives
and reigns with you for ever and ever.

20th DECEMBER

Entry antiphon

A son shall rise from the family of Jesse,
and the glory of the Lord will fill the whole world;
all nations shall see the salvation that comes from God.

Collect

O God, when the angel brought your message, the sinless Virgin
received within herself your Divine Word; she was filled with the
light of the Holy Spirit and became the home of God. Grant that,
like her, we may steadfastly obey your will. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Look favourably, Lord, upon this one perfect sacrifice. Grant
that by sharing in it we may receive the grace for which our faith has
taught us to hope. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

The angel said to Mary:
You will conceive and bear a son,
and will call him Jesus.

Post-Communion

You have given us, Lord, the bread of heaven. Protect us, and
make this sacrament a continual source of true joy and peace.
Through Christ our Lord.

21st DECEMBER

Entry antiphon

The Lord your King will come soon,
and he will be called Emmanuel,
a name which means God-with-us.

Collect

In your goodness, Lord, listen to your people's prayer. We rejoice at your Son's coming in human form like our own: grant that when he comes again in majesty we may receive the reward of eternal life. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

In your mercy you have given gifts to your Church for us to return to you. Accept them, Lord, and transform them by your power into the sacrament of our salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Blessed are you for believing
that those things which the Lord spoke to you
would be fulfilled.

Post-Communion

Grant us, Lord, continual protection through this sacrament we have received. Help us to submit our hearts to you without reserve, so that by your saving grace we may have health of mind and body. Through Christ our Lord.

22nd DECEMBER

Entry antiphon

You are not high enough, you gates:
you must rise higher, everlasting doors,
that the king of glory may enter.

Collect

O God, when you saw that the human race had fallen into the power of death, in your goodness you chose to send your Son to rescue us. In our need we eagerly profess our faith in his Incarnation: grant that we may share also in the fruits of his Redemption: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Trusting in your goodness, Lord, we bring our gifts to your altar. Grant that we may receive from this sacrament the grace to purify our hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Advent II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

My soul glorifies the Lord,
for the Almighty has worked in me his wonders.

Post-Communion

Grant, Lord, that the sacrament we have received may strengthen

us, so that, when we go to meet the Saviour, our good works may make us worthy to receive our reward in heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

23rd DECEMBER

Entry antiphon

A child shall be born to us,
and he shall be called God, the strong One.
In his name all the nations of the earth will be blessed.

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, now that the birthday of your Son made man is drawing near, we plead in our unworthiness for his mercy. This we do in confidence, for he accepted human nature from the Virgin Mary and came to dwell among us: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, in this offering, the perfect act of worship; and grant that we may come with pure hearts to celebrate our Redeemer's birth: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface of Advent II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Behold, I stand at the door and knock.
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door,
I will come in and eat with him, and he will eat with me.

Post-Communion

You have nourished us, Lord, with your heavenly food: in your mercy grant us your peace, so that we may wait faithfully with lighted torches for your Son's coming: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

24th DECEMBER—MORNING MASS

Entry antiphon

Now, the fulness of time has come,
when God sent his Son into the world.

Collect

Come quickly, Lord Jesus, and do not delay. We trust in your goodness: comfort us with your coming. You who live and reign.

Prayer over the Offerings

In your goodness, Lord, accept the gifts we offer. By receiving them back from you, may we gain release from our sins and so be able to wait with pure hearts for your Son's glorious coming: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface of Advent II (p. 57)

Communion antiphon

Blessed is the Lord God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his people.

Post-Communion

Renewed in strength by your wonderful gift, Lord, we anticipate the birthday of your divine Son. Grant us the joy of receiving his everlasting reward in heaven: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

24th DECEMBER—VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

Entry antiphon

Today you will know that the Lord will come and save us,
and tomorrow you will see his glory.

Collect

O God, each year you give us the joy of waiting for the coming of our redemption. We greet your Son as our Redeemer: grant that we may be able to welcome him when he comes as Judge: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

You have revealed to us, Lord, that the coming feast is the source of our redemption. Help us to prepare for it now with eager devotion. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

In the Roman Canon: Communicantes of Christmas.

Communion antiphon

The glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all mankind will see the salvation our God brings to us.

Post-Communion

Lord, you have given us your Son's heavenly sacrament to be our food and drink. Grant that we may grow in grace through celebrating his birthday: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

25th DECEMBER—MIDNIGHT MASS

Entry antiphon

The Lord said to me: You are my Son,
today I have begotten you.

or

Let us all rejoice in the Lord.
For our Saviour is born into the world;
today true peace has come down on us from heaven.

Collect

O God, you have brightened this holy night with the splendour

of the true light. We have learnt to recognise the mystery of your Son's light on earth; grant that we may share his joy in heaven: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Look favourably, Lord, upon the offering we make to you in honour of today's feast. In your Son our nature is united with you: grant that through this Mass we may grow to be like him: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

In the Roman Canon: Communicantes of Christmas.

Communion antiphon

The Word was made flesh,
and we have seen his glory.

Post-Communion

O Lord our God, we celebrate with joy the birthday of our Redeemer. Grant that our lives may make us worthy to be with him for ever in heaven: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

25th DECEMBER—DAWN MASS

Entry antiphon

Today light will shine on us, for the Lord is born to us.
He will be called Wonderful, God, Prince of Peace, Father of
the World to Come;
and his reign will be without end.

Collect

Almighty God, we are bathed in the new light of your Word made man. Grant that this light which shines in our minds through faith, may be reflected in our deeds. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Help us, Lord, to offer you our gifts with renewed devotion on this feast of your Son's nativity. Born as a man, he was revealed as God: may these earthly gifts bring us a share in his godhead: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

In the Roman Canon: Communicantes of Christmas.

Communion antiphon

Rejoice, daughter of Sion; praise the Lord, daughter of
Jerusalem.
See, your King will come, the Holy One, the Saviour of the
World.

Post-Communion

We rejoice, Lord, in celebrating your Son's birth. Help us to penetrate into the depths of this mystery with a greater faith and to welcome it with a warmer love. Through Christ our Lord.

25th DECEMBER—DAY MASS

Entry antiphon

A child is born to us, a Son is given to us;
the sceptre of princely power is upon his shoulder,
and he is proclaimed the Wonderful Counsellor.

Collect

O God, when you created man, you endowed him with a wonderful dignity, and you restored it to him more perfect than before. Your Son was willing to share in our manhood: grant us a share in his godhead: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

You have given us, Lord, the Mass as a means of mercy and reconciliation, and to be our perfect act of worship. Accept then this offering which we make to you as we celebrate your Son's birth: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

In the Roman Canon: Communicantes of Christmas.

Communion antiphon

All the peoples of the earth have seen the saving power of our God.

Post-Communion

God of mercy, the Saviour of the world who was born today brings us your divine life. Grant that he may also confer on us the gift of immortality: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Sunday after Christmas (or 30th December):

THE HOLY FAMILY

Feast

Entry antiphon

The shepherds came with haste
and found Mary and Joseph, with the Child lying in a manger.

Collect

O God, you have given us the Holy Family to be our example. Help us to make our homes reflect the loving harmony of that family, so that we may enjoy an eternal reward with you in our heavenly home. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the sacrifice we offer you, and grant, through the intercession of our Lady and Saint Joseph, that our families may be secure in your grace and your peace. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

In the Roman Canon: Communicantes of Christmas.

Communion antiphon

Our God has appeared on the earth; and has lived among us.

Post-Communion

Most merciful Father, you have given us the bread of heaven to renew our strength. Help us to imitate the example of the Holy Family, so that, after the tribulations of this life, we may rejoice in their company for ever. Through Christ our Lord.

29th December: FIFTH DAY WITHIN OCTAVE

Entry antiphon

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him shall not die,
but shall have eternal life.

Collect

Almighty, invisible God, you dispelled the darkness of the world by the coming of your light. Look favourably upon us and make us worthy to proclaim your Son's glorious birth: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, these gifts which we exchange with you. By offering what we have received from you, we are enabled to receive your very self. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

In the Roman Canon: Communicantes of Christmas.

Communion antiphon

Through the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn has visited us from on high.

Post-Communion

Grant us, almighty God, that the grace of this sacrament may strengthen us throughout our lives. Through Christ our Lord.

30th December: SIXTH DAY WITHIN OCTAVE

Entry antiphon

While the midnight silence reigned over all,
and the night was now half-spent,
Your almighty Word, O God,
leapt down from his royal throne in heaven.

Collect

Almighty God, our sins hold us captive. Grant that the new birth of your Son made man may bring us release: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be merciful, Lord, and accept your people's gifts; and grant that this sacrament may bring us the salvation in which we proclaim our belief. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

In the Roman Canon: Communicantes of Christmas.

Communion antiphon

From his fulness we have all received grace upon grace.

Post-Communion

O God, we meet you by sharing in your sacrament. Make its power effective in our hearts, so that this gift may enable us to receive further gifts from you. Through Christ our Lord.

31st December: SEVENTH DAY WITHIN OCTAVE

Entry antiphon

A child is born to us, a Son is given to us;
the sceptre of princely power is upon his shoulder,
and he is proclaimed the Wonderful Counsellor.

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, you made your Son's birth the origin of man's service of you and its highest perfection. Grant that we may be numbered among his people, for he sums up in himself the salvation of all the human race: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, source of true holiness and peace, help us to make this sacrifice the sincere expression of our worship and to share in it with heart and mind. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

In the Roman Canon: Communicantes of Christmas.

Communion antiphon

God has sent his only Son into this world,
that we may live through him.

Post-Communion

In your goodness, Lord, ever guide and strengthen your people; heal us now and always of our infirmities. And amid the passing pleasures of this world, help us to hasten with full confidence towards heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

1st January: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Entry antiphon

Hail holy Mother, you gave birth to the King
who rules heaven and earth for ever.

or

Today light will shine on us, for the Lord is born to us.
He will be called Wonderful, God, Prince of Peace, Father of the
World to come;
and his reign will be without end.

Collect

O God, you made Mary's virginity fruitful, and so held out to mankind the reward of eternal salvation. Through her you gave us your Son to be the source of our life: grant that we may experience the power of her prayer for us: Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

God of love, all that is good owes its existence and its perfection to you. On this feast of the holy Mother of God, we acknowledge gladly the grace you have given us in the past: bring it now, we pray, to joyful fulfilment. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Our Lady (1): on this feast of the Motherhood of the ever-Virgin Mary (p. 62).

In the Roman Canon: Communicantes of Christmas.

Communion antiphon

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today;
and will be the same for ever and ever.

Post-Communion

Lord, on this feast we gladly proclaim Mary, ever Virgin, as the Mother of your Son and of the Church. With joy we have received the Bread of heaven: grant that it may enable us to attain eternal life. Through Christ our Lord.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Entry antiphon

While the midnight silence reigned over all,
and the night was now half-spent,
Your almighty Word, O God,
leapt down from his royal throne in heaven.

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, light of souls that are faithful to you, fill the world with your glory and reveal yourself to all nations in the radiance of your light. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the offerings

Sanctify, Lord, the gifts we offer you as we celebrate your Son's birth; it reveals to us the true way of life in this world and brings us the promise of eternal life in heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

Communion antiphon

To all who welcomed him,
He gave the right to become sons of God.

Post-Communion

Lord God, we pray, by the power of this sacrament cleanse us from our faults and fulfil our holy desires. Through Christ our Lord.

6th January: EPIPHANY

Entry antiphon

Behold, God the Mighty has come;
power, rule and dominion are in his hands.

Collect

O God, on this day you led the gentiles by a star and revealed to them your Son. We know you now by faith: lead us on to the sight of your heavenly glory. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Look favourably, Lord, upon your Church's gifts. We do not offer gold, incense and myrrh; we offer Jesus Christ, for through our gifts of bread and wine he is signified, sacrificed and received: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface of the Epiphany (p. 59)

In the Roman Canon: proper Communicantes.

Communion antiphon

We have seen his star rising in the east,
and we have come with our gifts to pay him homage.

Post-Communion

Lord, give us always your heavenly light to lead us at every step we take. Strengthen our faith in this sacrament so that we may always receive it with due devotion. Through Christ our Lord.

THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST (Sunday after 6th January)

Entry antiphon

When Christ was baptized the heavens opened;
the Holy Spirit appeared as a dove resting on him
the voice of the Father proclaimed:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, when Christ had been baptized in the Jordan, the Holy Spirit came down on him and you solemnly proclaimed him to be your beloved Son. We are your sons and daughters by adoption, born again by water and the Holy Spirit. Grant that with us you may always be well pleased. Through our Lord.

or

O God, we believe that your Son appeared as a man like us, and shared our human nature: grant that he may reshape our hearts: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the gifts we offer you as we celebrate the revealing of your beloved Son. In his mercy he chose to atone for the sins of the world; grant that your people's offering of bread and wine may become his sacrifice: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface of Baptism of Christ (page 59)

Communion antiphon

This is the One of whom the Baptist said:
I have seen him myself and I can bear testimony
that he is the Son of God.

Post-Communion

You have nourished us, Lord, with your sacred gift; grant that we may listen to your Son in faith, and may ourselves not only be called your sons but truly be so. Through Christ our Lord.

MONDAYS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Entry antiphon

This holy day has dawned;
Come, peoples of the earth, adore the Lord God,
because a great light has come down on the world.

Collect

before the Epiphany

O Lord, we believe that your Son, who has shared your glory from all eternity, assumed a human nature like ours and was born of the Virgin Mary. Give us a firm and unshakeable faith, free us from the dangers which beset us, and grant us the happiness that lasts for ever. Through our Lord.

Collect

after the Epiphany

Fill our hearts, Lord, with the radiance of your glory, so that we may make our way through the darkness of this world and reach the everlasting light of our home in heaven. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, these gifts which we exchange with you. By offering what we have received from you, we are enabled to receive your very self. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas before the Epiphany (p. 58/59);

Preface of the Epiphany may be said afterwards. (p. 59)

Communion antiphon

We have seen his glory, full of grace and truth;
the glory that befits the Father's Son.

Post-Communion

Grant us, almighty God, that the grace of this sacrament may strengthen us throughout our lives. Through Christ our Lord.

TUESDAYS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Entry antiphon

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
He is the Lord God, and he has brought us Light.

Collect

before the Epiphany

O God, your Son was born of the Virgin Mary and shared our nature without our sinfulness: draw us into this new creation, so that we may escape from the effects of our former sins. Through our Lord.

after the Epiphany

O God, we believe that your Son appeared as a man like us, and shared our human nature: grant that he may reshape our hearts: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be merciful, Lord, and accept your people's gifts; and grant that this sacrament may bring us the salvation in which we proclaim our belief. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas before the Epiphany (p. 58/59);

Preface of the Epiphany may be said afterwards (p. 59)

Communion antiphon

Because of his exceeding love for us,
God sent his Son in a mortal nature like ours.

Post-Communion

O God, we meet you by sharing in your sacrament. Make its power effective in our hearts, so that this gift may enable us to receive further gifts from you. Through Christ our Lord.

WEDNESDAYS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Entry antiphon

The people who lived in the darkness have seen a great Light;
on those who dwell in the shadows of death the Light has shone.

Collect

before the Epiphany

Almighty God, you sent us a Saviour to redeem the world and bathe us in new light from heaven: grant that his presence may grow brighter in our hearts and bring us new life: who lives and reigns with you.

after the Epiphany

O God, the light of all nations, grant the world unfailing peace; flood our hearts with that radiant light in which you revealed your Son to our fathers: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, source of true holiness and peace, help us to make this sacrifice the sincere expression of our worship and to share in it with heart and mind. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas before the Epiphany (p. 58/59)

Preface of the Epiphany may be said afterwards (p. 59)

Communion antiphon

The eternal life which he had with the Father,
has been made visible to us.

Post-Communion

In your goodness, Lord, ever guide and strengthen your people; heal us now and always of our infirmities. And amid the passing pleasures of this world, help us to hasten with full confidence towards heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

THURSDAYS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Entry antiphon

At the beginning and from eternity the Word was God;
he humbled himself to be born the Saviour of the World.

Collect

before the Epiphany

O God, you made your Son's birth the first step in your marvel-

lous work of redemption. Strengthen our faith so that we may be able to follow him and reach the glory you promise us in heaven. Through our Lord.

after the Epiphany

O God, through your Son you have revealed the light of your eternity to all nations. Help us, your people, to recognise the fulness of the light in our Redeemer, so that we may share in it more and more, and reach the everlasting radiance of heaven. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, these gifts which we exchange with you. By offering what we have received from you, we are enabled to receive your very self. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas before the Epiphany (p. 58/59)

Preface of the Epiphany may be said afterwards (p. 59)

Communion antiphon

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him shall not die,
but shall have eternal life.

Post-Communion

Grant us, almighty God, that the grace of this sacrament may strengthen us throughout our lives. Through Christ our Lord.

FRIDAYS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Entry antiphon

For the upright of heart, Light has shone in the darkness;
The Lord, the merciful, compassionate and just.

Collect

before the Epiphany

In your goodness, Lord, enlighten our minds with your own radiant light, so that we may never cease to recognise our Saviour and give him our hearts in all sincerity: who lives and reigns with you.

after the Epiphany

Almighty God, you sent a star to guide the Magi and reveal to them the Saviour's birth: grant that the light of this revelation may shine ever more brightly in our hearts. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be merciful, Lord, and accept your people's gifts; and grant that this sacrament may bring us the salvation in which we proclaim our belief. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas before the Epiphany (p. 58/59)

Preface of the Epiphany may be said afterwards (p. 59)

Communion antiphon

The love of God has been made manifest to us,
because he sent his only Son among us,
so that through him we might be brought to life.

Post-Communion

O God, you meet us in your sacrament. Make its power effective in our hearts, so that this gift may enable us to receive further gifts from you. Through Christ our Lord.

SATURDAYS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Entry antiphon

God sent his Son, born of a woman;
that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Collect

before the Epiphany

Almighty, eternal God, at the coming of your Son your glory shone upon us with new light. In his love for us he was born of the Virgin and shared in our human nature: grant that he may rule over our hearts and give us a share in his grace: who lives and reigns with you.

after the Epiphany

Almighty, eternal God, through your Son you made us your new creation. In him our nature is united with you: help us by your grace to be like him: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, source of true holiness and peace, help us to make this sacrifice the sincere expression of our worship and to share in it with heart and mind. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas before the Epiphany (p. 58/59)

Preface of the Epiphany may be said afterwards (p. 59)

Communion antiphon

From his fulness we have all received grace upon grace.

Post-Communion

In your goodness, Lord, ever guide and strengthen your people; heal us now and always of our infirmities. And amid the passing pleasures of this world, help us to hasten with full confidence towards heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

FIRST WEEK OF THE YEAR

(NOTE: On the Sundays of the Year the Mass formula indicated for that particular Sunday is to be used; but on the Weekdays of the Year ANY of the Masses for the 34 weeks of the year may be used, bearing in mind the pastoral needs)

Entry antiphon

I saw a Man, sitting on a throne in heaven;
A great throng of Angels adored him and cried:
Behold the Lord, whose kingdom is eternal.

Collect

Lord, in your mercy grant the prayers of your people. Help us to see what we ought to do, and to have the strength to carry it out. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, Lord, that your people's offering may find favour with you, so that we may grow in holiness and our prayers may be answered. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

Lord, in you is the source of life;
and in your light we see the light.

or

The Lord said: I have come that they may have life,
and have it more abundantly.

Post-Communion

Almighty God, you have given us your sacrament to strengthen us. Grant that we may serve you worthily by living in accordance with your will. Through Christ our Lord.

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Entry antiphon

Let all the world adore you, God most High, and hymn your praises;
May all proclaim your power and might.

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, ruler of all things both in heaven and on earth, listen favourably to the petitions of your people, and grant us peace in our time. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us the grace, we pray you Lord, to take part worthily in this Mass; for whenever the memorial of Christ, our sacrifice, is celebrated, the work of our redemption is accomplished. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

You have prepared a table for me,
your Precious Blood you have given me;
how wonderful it is!

or

We have witnessed the love God has for us,
and we place in it all our trust.

Post-Communion

Fill us, Lord, with the Spirit of your love. You have given us the one bread of heaven to eat: unite us in loving care for one another. Through Christ our Lord.

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Entry antiphon

Sing to the Lord a new song; all the world sing to the Lord.
Majesty and glory attend him;
Holiness and power are in his sanctuary.

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, guide our actions according to your will, so that we may be fruitful in good works through the grace of your beloved Son: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

O Lord, be appeased and receive our gifts; sanctify them, so that they may bring us salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

Come to the Lord and receive his light;
turn away in shame no longer.

or

The Lord said: I am the light of the world;
he who follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will possess the light of life.

Post-Communion

Grant us, we pray, almighty God, that your grace may be a source of life to us, and this gift we have received, a source of joy. Through Christ our Lord.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Entry antiphon

Lord our God, save us;
Gather us together from all parts of the earth;
Let us give thanks to you and find glory in your praise.

Collect

Grant us, Lord our God, that we may worship you with all devotion, and seek to love all men according to your will. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, we have placed the gifts we owe you on your altar. In your mercy accept them, and make them the sacrament of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

Lord, look upon your servant:
save me in your mercy.
I have called upon you,
do not let me be ashamed.

or Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven;
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Post-Communion

Lord, you have given us the food which redeems us. May it help us on the way to everlasting salvation and make us ever more loyal in our faith. Through Christ our Lord.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Entry antiphon

Come, let us worship the Lord;
Let us pay homage to him who created us;
for he is the Lord our God.

Collect

Be faithful to your people, Lord, we pray, and do not cease to protect us. Guard us always and defend us, for we have no hope apart from your grace. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, our God, you made this bread and wine to support us in our weakness. Grant that they may become the sacrament which brings us eternal life. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

Let us thank the Lord for his compassion
and the wonderful things he has done for us;
He has refreshed all who are thirsty,
and taken their hunger away.

or Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted;
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for right to prevail,
for they shall have their hopes fulfilled.

Post-Communion

O God, you have given us one Bread and one Chalice to share. We ask you therefore, that we may find our joy in living as one in Christ, and so contributing to the salvation of the world. Through Christ our Lord.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Entry antiphon

O God, be my protector,
be a stronghold to keep me safe;
You are my rock and my refuge;
Be true to your holy Name;
lead me and care for me.

Collect

Lord, you promise to make your home in upright and sincere hearts. Give us the grace to make ourselves worthy dwelling-places for you. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

May this offering, Lord, purify us and renew us, so that we may be enabled to do your will and gain everlasting reward. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

The people have eaten and been satisfied;
The Lord has given them what they desired;
they have not been disappointed.

or God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him shall not die,
but shall have eternal life.

Post-Communion

You have given us, Lord, the food of heaven for our delight. Grant us the grace to seek this food always, for without it we cannot truly live. Through Christ our Lord.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Entry antiphon

I have placed all my hope in your mercy, Lord;
my heart has rejoiced in your salvation.
I shall sing to the Lord because he has been good to me.

Collect

Grant us the grace, almighty God, always to keep your truth in our hearts, so that every word we speak and every action we perform may be in accordance with your will. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, we celebrate this sacrifice to pay you our debt of worship.
Grant that this offering may help us to obtain salvation. Through
Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

I will proclaim all your wonders, you will be my joy;
I will sing your praises; O Lord most High.

or

Lord, I believe that you are the Saviour, the Son of the living
God,
who has come into this world.

Post-Communion

We have received, O Lord, in this sacrament the pledge of our
salvation. Grant, we pray, that we may also receive its fulfilment.
Through Christ our Lord.

EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Entry antiphon

The Lord has shown himself my protector;
he has rescued me and set me free,
because he has loved me.

Collect

Grant, Lord, that the world may follow your guidance in peace,
and the Church may rejoice in the freedom to do your will. Through
our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, we have nothing but your own gifts to offer you, yet you
accept them as a token of our loving worship. Grant us the grace we
need to make us worthy of receiving our eternal reward. Through
Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

I will praise the Lord for he has been good to me,
and sing in honour of the Lord most High.

or

I will be with you for ever, to the end of time, says the Lord.

Post-Communion

You have given us, Lord, your sacrament to strengthen us in this
life. Grant that it may enable us to share in the life that never ends.
Through Christ our Lord.

NINTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Entry antiphon

Lord, I am lonely and poor;
turn to me and show me forgiveness.
See my affliction and my distress, O God,
and forgive me all my sins.

Collect

O God, you watch over us with sure and unfailing care. Protect us from all that is harmful, and help us in all our needs. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

We come with our gifts to your altar, Lord, trusting in your mercy. Purify our hearts with your grace, and through this sacrifice free us from our sinfulness. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

I call out to you, O God, for you always hear my cry;
listen to me and grant my prayer.

or

Truly I say to you:
Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive,
and your prayer will be granted, says the Lord.

Post-Communion

You have nourished us, Lord, with the Body and Blood of your Son. Give us your Spirit as our guide. Help us to make our whole lives, like our prayers, an expression of our worship, so that we may become worthy to be received into the Kingdom of Heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

Proprium de Sanctis

30th November: ST ANDREW, APOSTLE

Feast

Entry antiphon

At the Sea of Galilee, the Lord saw two brothers, Peter and Andrew;
he called to them:
Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.

Collect

Lord, you raised up Saint Andrew, your Apostle, to preach and govern your Church; grant that we may always experience the benefit of his intercession with you. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Almighty God, we offer you these gifts on the feast of Saint Andrew, in the hope that you will be pleased with them and accept them, and give us new life. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of the Apostles (p. 63)

Communion antiphon

Andrew said to Simon:
We have found the Messiah who is called the Christ;
and he brought his brother to Jesus.

Post-Communion

Grant, Lord, that our Holy Communion with you may give us strength. Like Saint Andrew help us to bear Christ's death in our bodies, so as to be able to live with him in glory. Through Christ our Lord.

3rd December: ST FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

Memoria

Common of Pastors X (p. 50), except:

Collect

O God, you won many nations to the faith through the missionary work of Saint Francis Xavier. Kindle in our hearts a faith and dedication like his, so that the Gospel may be spread all over the world. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the gifts we offer you in honour of Saint Francis Xavier. In his longing for the salvation of the world he travelled to the ends of the earth: grant that we may be true witnesses to the Gospel, and hasten on our journey towards you with our brethren in the faith. Through Christ our Lord.

Post-Communion

Grant, O God, that this sacrament may set us on fire with that burning love with which Saint Francis Xavier sought to bring salvation to unbelievers. May we thus be more true to our Christian calling, and receive with him the reward which is promised to those who have laboured faithfully. Through Christ our Lord.

4th December:

Optional Memoria

ST JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST AND DOCTOR

Common of Pastors V (p. 49) or Doctors I (p. 51) except:

Collect

Grant, Lord, that the prayers of Saint John Damascene may help us. His teaching enriched the faith of the Church: may this faith be our light and our strength. Through our Lord.

6th December:

ST NICHOLAS, BISHOP

Optional Memoria

Common of Pastors III (p. 49), except:

Collect:

We ask you, Lord, through the intercession of Saint Nicholas, to keep us safe amid all dangers, so that we may go forward without hindrance along the road of salvation. Through our Lord.

7th December:

ST AMBROSE, BISHOP and DOCTOR Memoria

Common of Pastors III (p. 49) or Doctors I (p. 51), except:

Collect

O God, you gave us in your bishop Saint Ambrose a teacher of the Catholic faith and an example of constancy in witnessing to the Gospel. We pray you, raise up men after your own heart to guide your Church courageously and wisely. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, your Holy Spirit continually enlightened the mind of Saint Ambrose for his work of proclaiming your glory: grant that, through the Mass, your Spirit may shed the light of faith in our hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

Post-Communion

You have strengthened us, Lord, by the power of this sacrament. Grant that, profiting by Saint Ambrose's teaching, we may hasten boldly along your paths and prepare for the banquet of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

8th December:

Solemnity

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY

Entry antiphon

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,

and my soul will triumph in God;
for he has clothed me with holiness and robed me with grace,
like a Bride adorned with her bridal dress.

Collect

O God, you prepared a worthy dwelling-place for your Son through the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary and preserved her from all taint of sin through the merits of his future death. Grant through her intercession that we too may be freed from sin and join your company in heaven. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

We offer you, Lord, this redeeming sacrifice in honour of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We believe that your grace preserved her in advance from all taint of sin: in your mercy accept our offering, and through her intercession keep us free from all guilt. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of the Immaculate Conception (p. 63).

Communion antiphon

O Mary, great is your glory;
from you was born the Sun of Justice,
Christ our God.

Post-Communion

Lord our God, by a unique privilege you preserved Our Lady from all sin. Grant that the sacrament we have received may heal the wounds which sin has inflicted on us. Through Christ our Lord.

*11th December: ST DAMASUS I, POPE Optional Memoria
Common of Pastors I (p. 49), except:*

Collect

Lord, St Damasus loved and venerated your martyrs: grant that we too may always honour them. Through our Lord.

*12th December: Optional Memoria
ST JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL, RELIGIOUS*

Common of Holy Men and Women VII (p. 52), except:

Collect

O God, you endowed Saint Jane Frances with admirable qualities in various walks of life: through her intercession grant that we may be true to our Christian calling and never fail to witness to the light you give us. Through our Lord.

13th December:

Memoria

ST LUCY, VIRGIN AND MARTYR

*Common of Martyrs VI (p. 48) or Virgins I (p. 51), except:
Collect*

Grant, Lord, that the intercession of Saint Lucy, your virgin and Martyr, may help us to celebrate her martyrdom on earth and share in her glory for all eternity. Through our Lord.

14th December:

Memoria

ST JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR

Entry antiphon

Far be it from me to glory except in the Cross of Christ,
whereby the world has been crucified to me,
and I to the world.

Collect

O God, you inspired in your priest, Saint John, a great love of complete self-denial and of the holy Cross. Grant that we may follow his example faithfully, so as to gain the eternal vision of your glory in heaven. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Almighty God, look favourably on the offerings we make to you in honour of Saint John. We are celebrating the mystery of Our Lord's Passion: grant that we may reproduce it in our lives. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

The Lord said: If anyone wishes to be my disciple,
let him deny himself and take up his cross,
and follow in my footsteps.

Post-Communion

O God, you revealed the power of your Cross in the life of Saint John: grant that this sacrifice may give us strength to hold faithfully to Christ, and labour within the Church for the salvation of the world. Through Christ our Lord.

21st December:

Optional Memoria

ST PETER CANISIUS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR

*Common of Pastors V (p. 49) or Doctors I (p. 51) except:
Collect*

O God, you endowed your priest, Saint Peter Canisius, with holiness and learning for the defence of the Catholic faith. Through his intercession grant us this joy, that in seeking the truth we may find you, our God, and remain ever steadfast in our faith. Through our Lord.

*23rd December: ST JOHN OF KETY, PRIEST Optional Memoria
Common of Pastors V (p. 49) or Holy Men and Women IX (p. 53),
except:*

Collect

Almighty God, help us to follow the example of your priest,
Saint John of Kety, in seeking a deeper knowledge of your ways.
Help us to show compassion to all who are in need, so that we our-
selves may obtain your mercy. Through our Lord.

*26th December: ST STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR Feast
Entry antiphon*

The heavens opened for Stephen, the first of the martyrs;
in triumph he received the crown of glory.

Collect

We are celebrating, Lord, the martyrdom of one who could
pray even for his persecutors. Grant that like him, we may learn to
love our enemies. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the gifts we offer you today as we honour the
glorious martyrdom of Saint Stephen. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

Communion antiphon

They stoned Saint Stephen;
and all the while he cried out:
Lord Jesus, receive my soul.

Post-Communion

We thank you, Lord, for the many mercies you have shown us:
you have redeemed us by your Son's birth and given us the joy of
celebrating the feast of your martyr Saint Stephen. Through Christ
our Lord.

*27th December: ST JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST Feast
Entry antiphon*

Saint John, the beloved disciple, reclined close to the Lord at
the Last Supper;
the secrets of heaven were revealed to him,
and he proclaimed the message of eternal life throughout the
world.

or The Lord gave him wisdom and understanding,
and he became a teacher in the Church;
now he is robed in glory.

Collect

O God, you disclosed to us the secrets of your Eternal Word through your beloved apostle John: grant us the power to understand his sublime teaching. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Sanctify, Lord, these gifts we offer you. At the Last Supper you revealed the secrets of your Eternal Word to the apostle John: teach them also to us while we celebrate his Supper in the Mass: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

Communion antiphon

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us;
and we have all shared in the fulness of his grace.

Post-Communion

Almighty God, your beloved apostle John preached the Word made flesh. Grant that the same Word may always dwell among us through our celebration of the Mass. Through Christ our Lord.

28th December: *THE HOLY INNOCENTS* *Feast*

Entry antiphon

The innocent children were put to death in place of Christ;
they follow him, the sinless Lamb;
they praise him for ever, singing: Glory to you, Lord.

Collect

O God, on this day the Holy Innocents gave witness to you, not by words but by a martyr's death. We profess our faith in words: grant that the holiness of our lives may confirm the witness of our tongues. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, by your sacraments you give grace even to those too young to understand. We make our offerings with devotion: grant that they may cleanse us from sin. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Christmas (p. 58/59)

Communion antiphon

These have been redeemed from among the human race
as the first fruits for God and for the Lamb of God;
they follow the Lamb wherever he goes.

Post-Communion

We have received your sacrament, Lord, on this feast of the Holy Innocents. Though they could not yet express in words their

faith in your Son, they were filled with grace through his birth. Grant that we who do believe in him may receive abundant salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

29th December:

Optional Memoria

ST THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP AND MARTYR

Common of Martyrs VI (p. 48) or Pastors III (p. 49), except:

Collect

O God, you gave your martyr, Saint Thomas of Canterbury, the grace to sacrifice his life courageously in the cause of justice. Grant through his intercession, that we may give up our life for Christ in this world, so as to find eternal life in heaven. Through our Lord.

31st December:

ST SILVESTER I, POPE

Optional Memoria

Common of Pastors I (p. 49), except:

Collect

Grant, Lord, that the prayers of Pope Saint Silvester may support us. Guide us safely through this life so that we may attain eternal life in heaven. Through our Lord.

2nd January:

Memoria

*SS BASIL THE GREAT and GREGORY NAZIANZEN,
BISHOPS AND DOCTORS*

Common of Pastors III (p. 49) or Doctors I (p. 51), except:

Collect

O God, you have given your Church the example and the teaching of Saint Basil and Saint Gregory to be our light: grant that we may learn your truth in humility, and practise it faithfully in love. Through our Lord.

7th January:

ST RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT

Optional Memoria

Common of Pastors V (p. 49), except:

Collect

O God, you endowed your priest, Saint Raymond, with wonderful compassion for prisoners and for sinners: grant through his intercession that we may escape from our slavery to sin and do your will with freedom of spirit. Through our Lord.

13th January:

Optional Memoria

ST HILARY, BISHOP AND DOCTOR

Common of Pastors III (p. 49) or Doctors I (p. 51), except:

Collect

Almighty God, your bishop Saint Hilary constantly maintained the divinity of your Son. Help us to deepen our understanding of this truth and maintain it faithfully. Through our Lord.

17th January: ST ANTONY, ABBOT

Memoria

Entry antiphon

The just man will flourish like the palm tree
and grow like a cedar of Lebanon;
he is planted in the house of the Lord,
in the courts of our God.

Collect

O God, you gave your abbot Saint Antony the grace to serve you by following a wonderful pattern of life in the desert. Grant through his intercession that we may deny ourselves, and love you always above all else. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the gifts which we, your servants, place on your altar in honour of Saint Antony. Grant that we may break free from earthly preoccupations and become rich in the possession of you alone. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

If you wish to be perfect, said the Lord,
sell all you have and give it to the poor,
and then follow me.

Post-Communion

Lord, you enabled Saint Antony to win many great victories over the devil. You have given us this sacrament to strengthen us: grant us the grace to overcome all our temptations. Through Christ our Lord.

20th January: ST FABIAN, POPE and MARTYR *Optional Memoria*
Common of Martyrs VI (p. 48) or Pastors I (p. 49), except:

Collect

O God, the glory of your priests, grant through the intercession of your martyr Saint Fabian that we may share his faith and serve you loyally. Through our Lord.

ST SEBASTIAN, MARTYR *Optional Memoria*

Common of Martyrs VI (p. 48), except:

Collect

Grant us, Lord, the spirit of fortitude, so that we may follow the example of your martyr Saint Sebastian, and learn to serve you rather than men. Through our Lord.

*21st January: ST AGNES, VIRGIN AND MARTYR Memoria
Common of Martyrs VI (p. 48) or Virgins I (p. 51), except:*

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, you choose the weak things of this world to put the strong to shame. We are celebrating the martyrdom of Saint Agnes: grant that we may imitate the constancy of her faith. Through our Lord.

22nd January:

Optional Memoria

ST VINCENT, DEACON AND MARTYR

Common of Martyrs VI (p. 48), except:

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, fill our hearts with your Holy Spirit, and grant us that courageous love which enabled your martyr Saint Vincent to overcome all torture. Through our Lord.

24th January:

Memoria

ST FRANCIS DE SALES, BISHOP AND DOCTOR

Common of Pastors III (p. 49) or Doctors I (p. 51), except:

Collect

O God, you made your bishop Saint Francis de Sales all things to all men for the sake of their salvation. Teach us like him to be considerate in the service of our neighbour, and so reflect your own love for mankind. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, you filled Saint Francis' gentle soul with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Kindle our hearts too, we pray, through this sacrifice which we offer. Through Christ our Lord.

Post-Communion

Almighty God, grant that this sacrament we have received may enable us to imitate on earth the gracious charity of Saint Francis de Sales, and so come to share his glory in heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

25th January:

Feast

THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE

Entry antiphon

I know whom I have trusted, he is the Just Judge;

I am confident his power will keep me safe, until the Last Day.

Collect

O God, you taught the whole world by the preaching of your apostle Paul. Today we celebrate his conversion: help us to make our

way towards you in his footsteps and to be witnesses of your truth to the world. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, the Holy Spirit continually enlightened your apostle Paul so that he might spread your glory throughout the world. Grant that, through this sacrifice we offer, the Holy Spirit may shed the light of faith in our hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Apostles (p. 63)

Communion antiphon

I live now by faith in the Son of God,
who loved me so much
that he gave himself up for me.

Post-Communion

Lord our God, grant that the sacrament we have received may light a fire of love within us, like that which glowed in Saint Paul's heart and drove him to bear the responsibility for all the Churches. Through Christ our Lord.

*26th January: SS TIMOTHY AND TITUS, BISHOPS Memoria
Common of Pastors III (p. 49), except:*

Collect

O God, you endowed Saint Timothy and Saint Titus with grace to preach the Gospel. Grant, through their intercession, that we may lead holy lives, and so gain admission to our true home in heaven. Through our Lord.

*27th January: ST ANGELA MERICI, VIRGIN Optional Memoria
Common of Virgins I (p. 51) or Holy Men and Women X (p. 54),
except:*

Collect

May the prayers of Saint Angela, your virgin, Lord, never cease to commend us to your mercy. Help us to follow her example of love and discretion, so that we may remain faithful to your teaching and reflect it in our lives. Through our Lord.

*28th January: Memoria
ST THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR*

*Common of Doctors I (p. 51) or Pastors V (p. 49), except:
Collect*

O God, you made Saint Thomas Aquinas a man of great holiness and an outstanding theologian: help us to understand his teaching and to imitate his life. Through our Lord.

31st January: *ST JOHN BOSCO, PRIEST* *Memoria*
Common of Pastors V (p. 49) or Holy Men and Women X (p. 54),
except:
Collect

O God, you gave your priest Saint John Bosco to the Church to be the father and instructor of the young. Kindle in our hearts the love that burned in his, so that we may serve you alone and seek the salvation of our fellow-men. Through our Lord.

2nd February: *THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD* *Feast*
Blessing and Procession of Candles

The faithful, holding unlighted candles, assemble in a chapel or other place from which the procession will go to the Church. The priest, wearing the white Mass vestments (or a white cope which he takes off after the procession), comes with his ministers. The candles are lighted during the following antiphon:

The Lord our God will come in majesty;
he will enlighten the minds of his servants, alleluia.

The priest, after greeting the people in the customary way (as at the beginning of Mass) gives a brief instruction in which he invites them to take a full and informed part in celebrating the liturgy of the feast.

He may use words such as these:

My dear people: It is forty days since we celebrated with rejoicing the feast of Our Lord's birth. Now we have reached the joyful day when Jesus was presented in the Temple. In this he was fulfilling the Law; but the deeper significance of the mystery is that he came to meet his faithful people. The Holy Spirit inspired Simeon and Anna in their old age to enter the Temple, and enabled them to recognize their Lord and to profess their faith in him with joy. The Holy Spirit has brought us together in our turn so that we may enter God's church to greet Christ. We shall find him and recognize him in the breaking of bread, until he comes revealed in glory on the Last Day.

With joined hands the priest blesses the candles:

Let us pray:

O God, source of all light, on this day you showed to holy Simeon the Light to be revealed to the gentiles. Bless ✠ these candles which we are to carry in your honour, and grant that we may advance along the path of holiness to the light that never fails. Through Christ our Lord.

or

Let us pray:

O God, true light, source of everlasting light, shed your eternal brightness on the hearts of your faithful. Here in your temple we shine with the light of our candles; grant that we may attain to the radiance of your glory in heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

The priest sprinkles the candles with holy water, without using any form of words. He takes his own candle and says:

Let us go forth in peace to meet the Lord.

During the procession the following is sung or another appropriate hymn or antiphon:

He is a light to enlighten the gentiles,
to give glory to Israel, your people.

At last, all-powerful Master,
you give leave to your servant to go in peace,
according to your promise.

He is a light to enlighten the gentiles,
to give glory to Israel, your people.

For my eyes have seen your salvation.

He is a light to enlighten the gentiles,
to give glory to Israel, your people.
Which you have prepared for all nations.

He is a light to enlighten the gentiles,
to give glory to Israel, your people.

As the procession enters the Church the Entry antiphon is sung. After kissing the altar (and incensing it), the canticle Glory be to God on high is sung, and the rest of the Mass is as usual.

Entry antiphon

O God, we have found mercy in your temple;

Your name and your praise extend to the ends of the earth;
you are generous with your gifts of grace.

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, on this day your only-begotten Son, a child of flesh and blood like ours, was presented in the temple. Grant that we too may come into your presence with souls made clean. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, it was your will that your Son should offer himself as the spotless Lamb to win life for the world. Accept then the offering which the Church makes to you in her joy at today's feast. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Presentation of our Lord (p. 62)

Communion antiphon

My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared for all nations.

Post-Communion

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon that he would not see death until he had taken Christ into his arms. Grant that we may grow in grace through this sacrament, so that we may come to meet our Lord in heaven, and there receive eternal life. Through Christ our Lord.

*3rd February: ST BLASE, BISHOP and MARTYR Optional Memoria
Common of Martyrs VI (p. 48) or Pastors III (p. 49), except:
Collect*

Lord, we join our prayers with those of your martyr Saint Blase. Grant us peace and joy in this life, and help us on the way to heaven. Through our Lord.

*ST ANSGAR, BISHOP Optional Memoria
Common of Pastors III (p. 49) or X (p. 50), except:
Collect*

O God, you sent your bishop Saint Ansgar to bring the light of the Gospel to many nations. Grant, through his intercession, that we may always walk in the light of truth. Through our Lord.

*5th February: ST AGATHA, VIRGIN and MARTYR Memoria
Common of Martyrs VI (p. 48) or Virgins I (p. 51), except:
Collect*

Lord, Saint Agatha fulfilled your will throughout her life, especially in her holy chastity and her valiant martyrdom. We beg you, be moved by her prayers to grant us your mercy. Through our Lord.

*6th February: Memoria
ST PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS
Common of Martyrs I (p. 47), except:
Collect*

O God, you are the strength of your saints. You called Saint Paul Miki and his companions to eternal life by way of martyrdom and the Cross. Grant, through their intercession, that throughout our lives we may hold courageously to the faith we profess. Through our Lord.

*8th February: ST JEROME EMILIAN Optional Memoria
Common of Holy Men and Women X (p. 54), except:
Collect*

O God, Father of mercy, you gave Saint Jerome Emilian to the

orphans to be their helper and their father. Through his intercession grant that we may always keep your Holy Spirit in our hearts to adopt us and make us your children, not only in name but in fact. Through our Lord.

*10th February: ST SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN Memoria
Common of Virgins I (p. 51) or Holy Men and Women VII (p. 52),
except:
Collect*

Lord, we are celebrating the feast of your virgin Saint Scholastica. Grant that we may follow her example and serve you with single-hearted devotion, and so experience the joy of your love in heaven. Through our Lord.

*11th February: OUR LADY OF LOURDES Optional Memoria
Common of Our Lady (p. 47), except:
Collect*

Father of mercy, we are celebrating the feast of the Immaculate Mother of God. Through her intercession, support us in our weakness and help us to recover from the disease of our sins. Through our Lord.

*14th February: Memoria
ST CYRIL, MONK, AND ST METHODIUS, BISHOP
Common of Pastors VIII (p. 50) or X (p. 50), except:
Collect*

O God, you chose the holy brothers Saint Cyril and Saint Methodius to spread the light of the Gospel among the Slavonic people. Grant that we may take your teaching to heart, and that we may be united as your people in our loyalty to the faith. Through our Lord.

*17th February: Optional Memoria
THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER
Common of Holy Men and Women VII (p. 52), except:
Collect*

Lord, fill our hearts with the love which inspired the seven holy brothers to honour the Mother of God and to help your people grow in holiness. Through our Lord.

*21st February: Optional Memoria
ST PETER DAMIAN, BISHOP AND DOCTOR
Common of Pastors III (p. 49) or Doctors I (p. 51), except:
Collect*

Help us, almighty God, to follow the teaching and example of your bishop Saint Peter Damian. Grant that Christ may have first place in our hearts, so that we may give ourselves to the service of your Church and rejoice at last in the eternal light of heaven. Through our Lord.

22nd February: *THE SEE OF ST PETER, APOSTLE* *Feast*
Entry antiphon

The Lord said to Simon Peter:
I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail,
and after you have repented,
you must strengthen your brethren.

Collect

Almighty God, you have established us firmly on the rock of Saint Peter's profession of faith. Grant that in the face of all onslaughts we may stand unshaken. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

In your goodness, Lord, accept the prayers and offerings of the Church, your flock. Grant that with Saint Peter to guide us, we may reach our eternal inheritance, and that with him to teach us, we may hold unreservedly to the true faith. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of the Apostles (p. 64)

Communion antiphon

Peter said to Jesus:
You are the Christ, the Son of the living God;
and Jesus answered him:
You are Peter, and on you, the Rock, I will build my Church.

Post-Communion

O God, on the feast of your apostle Saint Peter, you have nourished us with your Son's Body and Blood. Grant that this redeeming sacrifice may create among us a bond of unity and peace. Through Christ our Lord.

23rd February: *ST POLYCARP, BISHOP and MARTYR Memoria*
Common of Martyrs VI (p. 48) or Pastors III (p. 49), except:

Collect

O God, creator of the world, you added your bishop Saint Polycarp to the ranks of your martyrs. Grant through his intercession, that we may join him in drinking Christ's cup of suffering and rising to eternal life. Through our Lord.

4th March: *ST CASIMIR* *Optional Memoria*
Common of Holy Men and Women I (p. 52), except:

Collect

Almighty God, in serving you Saint Casimir was a true king. Grant us through his prayers, that we too may serve you always in holiness and justice. Through our Lord.

Communia

(NOTE: Where reference is made in the *Proprium de Sanctis* to a particular Common, ANY formula of the same Common may be used according to pastoral needs; moreover, in a *Memoria*, the Prayer over the Offerings and the Post-Communion may be those of the *feria*)

COMMON OF OUR LADY, I

(This Mass may also be used for the Saturday Mass of Our Lady)

Entry antiphon

Hail, holy Mother, you gave birth to the King
who rules heaven and earth for ever!

Collect

Lord our God, grant us your servants, always to enjoy health of mind and body. Through the prayers of Mary ever Virgin, bestow on us freedom from distress in this life and everlasting happiness in heaven. Through our Lord.

or

Lord, pardon your servants their offences. Since without your grace we cannot win your favour, grant that the intercession of your Son's Mother may save us. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

May we find help, Lord, in the human nature of your only-begotten Son. At his birth he preserved and consecrated his Mother in her virginity: grant that he may cure us of our faults and make our offering pleasing to you: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface of Our Lady. (p 63/64) When the first preface is used on feasts the words on this feast of the ever-Virgin Mary are used; in Votive Masses the words as we venerate the ever-Virgin Mary are used.

Communion antiphon

Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary
which carried the Son of the eternal Father.

Post-Communion

We have received your sacrament, Lord, and rejoice in paying honour to the blessed Virgin Mary. Grant that we may imitate her and become more worthy to take part in celebrating this memorial of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMON OF MARTYRS

I—For many Martyrs, outside Paschal Time

Entry antiphon

The souls of the Saints who followed Christ
are happy in heaven;

because they shed their blood for love of him,
they will rejoice with him eternally.

Prayer over the Offerings

Holy Father, accept the gifts which we offer you in honour of your martyrs. Grant that we, like them, may prove fearless in showing ourselves to be followers of your Son: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Communion antiphon

You are the ones who stood firmly by me
in my time of trial, said the Lord,
and I am giving you the right
to eat and drink at my table in my kingdom

Post-Communion

O God, in the lives of your holy martyrs you have given us a deeper insight into the meaning of your Cross. Strengthen us through this sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may fix our hearts firmly on Christ, and labour in the Church for the salvation of the world. Through Christ our Lord.

VI—For one Martyr, outside Paschal Time

Entry antiphon

This holy man (woman) upheld God's law even to death;
he (she) feared not the threats of the wicked;
his (her) confidence was firm as a rock.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, bless the gifts we offer you and make them holy. Love of you enabled Saint N. to overcome all the tortures that were inflicted upon him (her). Grant that this sacrament may set our hearts on fire with a love like his (hers). Through Christ our Lord.

or

Lord, the blood that your martyr, Saint N. shed for you, was precious in your sight. We pray you: be pleased to accept the gifts we offer you in his (her) honour. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

The Lord said: If anyone wishes to be my disciple,
let him deny himself and take up his cross,
and follow in my footsteps.

Post-Communion

Lord, your martyr Saint N. remained true to you and triumphed over his (her) sufferings. Grant that this Holy Communion we have received may endow us with a courage like his (hers). Through Christ our Lord.

COMMON OF PASTORS

I—For Popes or Bishops

Entry antiphon

The Lord chose him to be a great priest;
and from his treasures of grace
endowed him with surpassing holiness.

Prayer over the Offerings

We offer you, Lord, our gifts in honour of your saints, and confidently hope that you will free us now and always from the evils that threaten us. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

The good shepherd has given his life for his flock.

Post-Communion

Lord, our God, your Saint N. was on fire with love of you and spent himself unceasingly in the service of your Church. Grant that this sacrament we have received may make a love like his glow brightly in our hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

III—For Bishops

Entry antiphon

I will have regard for my sheep, said the Lord;
and I will set over them a shepherd to care for them;
I, the Lord, will be their God.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, accept the offerings we bring to your holy altar on this feast of Saint N. Grant that through them we may win your forgiveness, and pay you the worship which is your due. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

You did not choose me, but I chose you, said the Lord:
I appoint you to go and bear fruit,
and your fruit will remain after you.

Post-Communion

Lord, you have given us your sacrament to renew our strength. Help us to follow the example of Saint N. by professing our faith in what he believed, and living according to his teaching. Through Christ our Lord.

V—For Pastors

Entry antiphon

I have been anointed with oil
and the Spirit of God rests on me;
I have been sent to preach the Gospel to the poor,
and to bring forgiveness to the repentant.

Prayer over the Offerings

Almighty God, as we offer you these gifts, we acknowledge the power of your grace which transformed the lives of your saints. Grant that the Mass may make our lives holy like theirs. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

Be certain of this, said the Lord:
I shall be with you always,
even to the end of the world.

Post-Communion

Lord, Saint N. served you faithfully and so attained to the unending joy of heaven. Grant that this sacrament may make us fit to receive the same reward. Through Christ our Lord.

or

Almighty God, you have given us the Bread of Heaven to be our food. Grant that, after the example of Saint N., we may be faithful servants of yours, and grow in the constancy of our love for all mankind. Through Christ our Lord.

VIII—For Founders of Churches

Entry antiphon

My teaching, which I have put into your mouth,
will never fail, says the Lord;
The gifts which you offered on my altar,
will be accepted.

Prayer over the Offerings

Almighty God, we bring you our offerings in honour of Saint N. Be pleased to accept them, and change them into the Body and Blood of your Son: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Communion antiphon

The Son of Man came to give his life
as a ransom for all.

Post-Communion

Lord, as we celebrate the feast of Saint N., we have received Holy Communion as the pledge of eternal salvation. Grant that it may strengthen us in this life and prepare us for the life to come. Through Christ our Lord.

X—For Missionaries

Entry antiphon

These holy men are the friends of God,
renowned in their teaching of the eternal truth.

Prayer over the Offerings

Almighty God, look favourably upon the offerings we make to you on this feast of Saint N. We are celebrating the mystery of your Son's passion: grant that we may make our lives accord with the mystery we celebrate. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

I myself will tend my sheep, said the Lord;
and I will give them a place of rest.

Post-Communion

Lord, grant that this sacrament we have received may give us the strength to witness in word and deed to the true faith, for which Saint N. laboured incessantly and spent his whole life. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMON OF DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

I—For Doctors

Entry antiphon

The Lord gave him wisdom and understanding,
and he became a teacher in the Church;
now he is robed in glory.

or

The just man speaks wisely, his words are true;
the law of God reigns in his heart.

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, be pleased with the sacrifice which we gladly offer you on the feast of Saint N. We offer ourselves with it, and so join your Saint in praising you. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

He is the prudent and trusted servant
whom the Lord has placed over his household,
to give his people the food they need.

Post-Communion

Lord, you have given us Christ, the living Bread; help us to follow his teaching, so that on this feast of Saint N. we may learn your truth, and practise it in deeds of love. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMON OF VIRGINS

I—For Virgins

Entry antiphon

This saint was one of those wise and prudent virgins
who were ready to meet Christ with their lamps burning.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, we honour the great achievements of your grace in the life

of the virgin, Saint N. May our offerings, like her holiness, find favour in your eyes. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

Here is Christ, the heavenly bridegroom;
Go forth to meet the Lord.

Post-Communion

Lord, our God, you have given us the Bread of Heaven to be our food. Help us by our acts of self-denial to carry the death of Jesus in our bodies, after the example of Saint N., so that we may come to set our hearts on you alone. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMON OF HOLY MEN AND WOMEN

I—For general use

Entry antiphon

Lord, may all your works sing your praise,
may all your Saints bless you;
they will tell the glory of your kingdom
and proclaim your almighty power.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, be merciful and grant our prayer. Through the intercession of your Saints protect us, so that we may become worthy of taking part in the Mass. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

Let the just be fed at the table of the Lord;
let them exult in the presence of God;
let them be filled with happiness.

or

Blessed are those whom the Lord finds ready when he comes;
Be certain of this: he will invite them to sit at his table,
and he himself will wait on them.

Post-Communion

Almighty, eternal God, Father of all consolation and peace, we have come together on the feast of your Saint to give you praise. Grant that the sacrament of your Son, which we have received, may be a pledge of our eternal salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

VII—For Religious

Entry antiphon

You, Lord are my portion and cup,
you restore my inheritance to me;
The way of life you have marked out for me
has made my heritage glorious.

Prayer over the Offerings

Most merciful God, in Saint N. you put an end to the old, sinful humanity and created instead a new humanity in your own image. Create in us a new life like his (hers), so that we may become worthy to offer you this sacrifice of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

I assure you who left all and followed me:
You will receive a hundredfold in return,
and inherit eternal life.

Post-Communion

Almighty God, by the power of this sacrament you have given us new strength. Teach us, like Saint N., always to set our hearts on you above all, and to grow into the likeness of Jesus Christ: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

IX—For those who performed works of mercy

Entry antiphon

Come, you whom my Father has blessed, says the Lord;
I was sick and you visited me.
As often as you did it for even the very least of my brethren,
I assure you: you did it for me.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the gifts we offer as we commemorate the salvation which your Son gained for us in his great love. Grant that we may follow the example of your Saints and grow in love of you and our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

There can be no greater love than this:
that a man should give up his life for his friends.

or

If you have true love for each other, said the Lord;
all will know you for my disciples.

Post-Communion

Lord, Saint N. never wearied in your service or ceased to tend your people with loving care. Grant that the sacrament which we have received may help us to follow his (her) example. Through Christ our Lord.

or

Lord, you have given us your holy sacrament to be our food and to gladden our hearts. In your mercy, grant that we may imitate the great love of Saint N., and so come to share in his (her) glory. Through Christ our Lord.

X—For Teachers of the Young

Entry antiphon

The Lord said:

let the little ones come to me and do not prevent them;
the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

or He who teaches my law and gives good example, said the Lord,
will be eminent in my kingdom.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, Lord, the gifts we offer you in honour of your Saints.
Grant that the Mass may enable us to follow the example of their
love. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion antiphon

You shall not enter the kingdom of heaven, says the Lord,
unless your hearts be changed
and you become like children.

or If you follow me, says the Lord,
you will not wander about in the darkness,
but you will have the light of life.

Post-Communion

Almighty God grant that the sacrament we have received may
help us to follow the example of your saints, so that we may show in
our deeds the love for our fellow-men and the devotion to the truth
which we cherish in our hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

XI—For Women Saints

Entry antiphon

The God-fearing woman will be honoured:
her sons proclaimed her blessed,
and her husband has sung her praises.

Prayer over the Offerings

We offer you, Lord, our gifts in honour of Saint N. Grant that
they may win us your pardon and your salvation. Through Christ
our Lord.

Communion antiphon

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls:
he found one of great value,
and sold everything in order to buy it.

Post-Communion

Almighty God, on this feast of Saint N., we pray that the divine
power of your sacrament may bring light and warmth to our hearts,
so that we may be on fire with holy desires, and generous in works
of mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

Votive Masses

I — Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart (for first Fridays)

Entry antiphon

The designs of his heart shall endure from age to age,
to rescue our souls from death,
and nourish us in our hunger.

Collect

O God, in your generosity and mercy you have made your Son's heart, which was wounded by our sins, a treasury of limitless grace and love. Grant that we may pay due honour and reparation to him: who lives and reigns with you.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, consider the boundless love in your dear Son's Heart, and grant our prayers. Graciously accept our offering, so that it may make atonement for our sins. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface of the Sacred Heart (p 61)

Communion antiphon

If anyone is thirsty, says the Lord,
let him come to me and drink.
He who believes in me,
out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.

or

One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear,
and at once there flowed out blood and water.

Post-Communion

Lord, may the sacrament of your love set our hearts on fire with love. As your Son draws us ever more closely to himself, teach us to recognize him in our fellow-men: who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

II — Votive Mass for Christian Unity

Entry antiphon

I am the good Shepherd;
I know my sheep and they know me, says the Lord.
As the Father knows me, I know the Father,
and I lay down my life for my sheep.

Collect

Almighty, eternal God, those who are divided you unite, and those who are united you support. Look with mercy on your Son's flock. The same baptism has made us holy; may we all share the

same faith in its fulness, and be linked in a bond of love. Through our Lord.

or

Lord, in your generosity and love for mankind, pour out upon us a fuller share of the grace of your Spirit. Help us to live up to the call you have given us, so that we may bear witness of the truth to all men, and strive that all believers may be united in the bond of peace. Through our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, by one sacrifice never to be repeated, you adopted us as your own people. Grant, then, to your Church the gifts of unity and peace. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

Through him you have led us to acknowledge your truth,
you have joined us in one faith and one baptism,
and made us his Body.

Through him you have poured out your Holy Spirit on all
nations,
a Spirit wonderful in the diversity of his gifts
and the unity he creates;
a Spirit who dwells in the sons you adopt,
and fills and rules the whole Church.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

Communion antiphon

Though we are many, we are one bread and one body,
for we all share the same bread and the same chalice.

Post-Communion

We have received your Holy Communion, Lord. It is the sign that your faithful are to be united in you; grant that it may be the source of unity in your Church. Through Christ our Lord.

Prefaces

ADVENT I

(The two Comings of Christ)

From the First Sunday of Advent to 16th December in Masses of the season, and in other Masses which do not have a proper preface

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

At his first Coming in our human nature,
in fulfilment of your will for men,
he opened for us the door to eternal life;

At his second Coming in majesty and glory
which we now await according to his promise,
let us be found worthy to receive the call into his kingdom.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

ADVENT II

(The twofold looking forward to the coming of Christ)

In Masses of the season from 17th to 24th December, and in other Masses which do not have a proper preface

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

The prophets proclaimed that he would come,
The Virgin Mother carried him in her womb with boundless love,
The Baptist prepared his way and announced his presence.

He has given to us now the joy of looking forward
to the mystery of his birth;
so that watching always in prayer,
we may fittingly celebrate the Christmas feast.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

CHRISTMAS I

(The new Light that is Christ)

In Masses of Christmas and the octave; at all Masses during the octave even if they have a proper preface unless they be of the Divine Persons or mysteries; and in Masses during Christmastide which do not have a proper preface.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:

Through the mystery of the Word made flesh
there has dawned upon the world the new light of your glory,
and as we see him who is God made visible,
we are moved to love what is unseen.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

In the Roman Canon: proper Communicantes from the Vigil Mass until the Octave day, inclusively.

CHRISTMAS II

(The restoring of creation)

Used in the same circumstances as Christmas I.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

On this holy day
the God we cannot see became a child for all to see.

He was begotten before the world began:
this day he was born into the world of time.

For it was his will to raise the fallen,
to restore creation,
to bring our fallen race back to its true home in heaven.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

In the Roman Canon: proper Communicantes from the Vigil Mass until the Octave day, inclusively.

CHRISTMAS III

(The benefit given to our mortal nature)

Used in the same circumstances as Christmas I.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

Today sees the dawn of the Work of our Redemption.
By taking our frail nature, your Eternal Word
has brought unending glory to weak and mortal man.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

In the Roman Canon: proper Communicantes from the Vigil Mass until the Octave day, inclusively.

EPIPHANY

(Christ revealed to the Gentiles)

Said on the feast of the Epiphany. It may also be used, as an alternative to the preface of Christmas, on the days following the feast during the rest of Christmastide.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:

Because on this day
you revealed the secret of our redemption
to the peoples of the world;
and when Christ came, a mortal man as we are,
you raised us up in the glory of his immortality.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

In the Roman Canon on the feast of the Epiphany: proper Communicantes.

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:

With wonderful signs you marked this Baptism in the Jordan:
Your voice from the heavens proclaimed
that your Word had come to live among men;
the Spirit who appeared in the form of a dove

revealed that Christ, your Servant,
was anointed with the oil of gladness,
and was sent to preach the Gospel to the poor.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

SUNDAYS OF THE YEAR I

(The Paschal Mystery and the People of God)

In the Masses of the Sundays of the Year.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

Through the mystery of his death and resurrection
your Son performed a wonderful work:
he freed us from the bonds of sin and death,
and made us a chosen nation,
a kingly priesthood,
a holy race,
a ransomed people;
and so everywhere we can tell of your power
by which you have called us out of darkness into your wonderful
light.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

SUNDAYS OF THE YEAR II

(The Mystery of Salvation)

In Masses of the Sundays of the Year.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

He took pity on our human failings
and was born into this world of a Virgin Mother;
he suffered on the Cross for us

and freed us from everlasting death;
he rose from the grave for us
and gave us eternal life.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:
And especially because your eternal Son
was today presented in the temple,
and was hailed by the Holy Spirit
as the Glory of Israel and the Light of the gentiles.
And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

THE SACRED HEART

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.
When he was lifted up on the cross,
in his great love he gave himself for us,
and made blood and water flow from that wounded side,
which is the source of the Church's sacraments;
so that our Saviour's opened Heart
might draw all men to himself
and be the ever-flowing spring of salvation
where all may quench their thirst with delight.
And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

BLESSED SACRAMENT I

Used in the Mass of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday; it can also be used on the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ and in Votive Masses of the Blessed Sacrament.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

He was the true and eternal Priest
who instituted the rite of the unending sacrifice,
and offered himself in it as the victim for our salvation,
and commanded us to offer the same sacrifice in memory of him.

By receiving his Body given for us
we are strengthened,
and by drinking his Blood poured out for us
we are cleansed from our sins.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:
You preserved the most blessed Virgin Mary
from all stain of original sin
and so bestowed upon her with the fulness of grace,
so that she might be a worthy Mother for your Son
and a sign of his Church,
the Bride without spot or stain.

For it was your will that this purest of Virgins
should give birth to the Innocent Lamb
who takes away the sins of the world,
your own Son;
and you had chosen to endow her with unique gifts
so that she might be our advocate and our model.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

OUR LADY I (The Motherhood of Our Lady)

In Masses of Our Lady. The feast is mentioned in the words indicated in the rubrics of the feast.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:
and especially on this feast (of the . . .) of the ever-Virgin Mary.
The Holy Spirit came upon her
and she conceived your only-begotten Son.
Without losing her glorious virginity,

she brought forth our Lord Jesus Christ
who is for ever the Light of the world.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

OUR LADY II

(The Church praises God in the words of Our Lady)

For Masses of Our Lady

It is indeed right and fitting
that we should tell of your glory that your Saints show forth,
and especially as we commemorate the blessed Virgin Mary,
and proclaim the wonders of your love.

Your saving power reached out to the ends of the earth
and you poured forth the riches of your mercy on all ages
when you took notice of her humility,
and through her gave us the author of salvation,
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

APOSTLES I

(The Shepherds of the People of God)

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:

You are the Eternal Shepherd and never desert your flock,
but guard and protect it always through your blessed Apostles,
so that it may be ruled by those shepherds
whom you have set over it in the name of your Son.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

APOSTLES II

(The testimony of the Apostles)

For Masses of Apostles and Evangelists

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

You have established your Church on the foundations of the
Apostles,
so that she may always be a sign to the world of your holiness,
and a witness to heaven before all mankind.
And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

SAINTS I

(The glory of the Saints)

For Masses of All Saints, Patrons and Titulars of Churches; and for solemnities and feasts of Saints, unless a more proper preface is to be used.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
You are glorified in the assembly of your Saints,
and in crowning their merits you crown your own gifts.
You give us their way of life as a pattern,
their company for fellowship,
their intercession for our support.
With such great witnesses to inspire us,
we can run our appointed course unconquered,
and so with them achieve an unfading crown of glory,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.
And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

COMMON PREFACE I

(The restoring of all things in Christ)

For use in Masses which do not have a proper preface if there is no seasonal preface which has to be used.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.
In Christ it pleased you to renew all things
and you have enabled us to receive of his fulness.
Although he was in the form of God,
he emptied himself, taking the form of a servant,
and through shedding his Blood on the Cross,

he reconciled all things in himself.
Therefore he was exalted above all your creatures
and became the way to eternal salvation for all who follow him.
And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

COMMON PREFACE II (Salvation through Christ)

Used in the same circumstances as Common Preface I.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:
In your goodness you created man;
and when he was condemned in accordance with your just decree,
in your great mercy you redeemed him
through the saving work of Christ our Lord.
And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

COMMON PREFACE III

Used for Masses which do not have a proper preface and where there is no seasonal preface which has to be used

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:
Through your well-beloved Son
you are both the Creator and merciful Redeemer of mankind
With justice all creation serves you,
with reason all the redeemed praise you,
and with one voice all the Saints bless your holy name.
And, therefore, Lord, we also praise you,
together with all the Angels,
as we joyfully proclaim:

COMMON PREFACE IV (Our praise is itself a gift of God)

Used in same circumstances as Common Preface I.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:
You have no need of our praise and we cannot add to your glory;
it is only by your gift to us that we can give you thanks
and thereby prepare ourselves for salvation,
which comes to us through Christ who is our Lord.
And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

PREFACE OF THE DEAD II Used in Masses of the Dead.

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

He suffered the pains of death so that we should not die;
and by his acceptance of death
he enabled us to live for ever with you.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

PREFACE OF THE DEAD III Used in Masses of the Dead

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

He is the Saviour of the World;
he brings eternal life to men;
he is the pledge of our resurrection from the dead.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

PREFACE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY

It is indeed right and fitting
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God,
through Jesus Christ who is our Lord.

Through him you have led us to acknowledge your truth,
you have joined us in one faith and one baptism,
and made us his Body.

Through him you have poured out your Holy Spirit on all
nations,
a Spirit wonderful in the diversity of his gifts
and the unity he creates;
a Spirit who dwells in the sons you adopt,
and fills and rules the whole Church.

And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints,
as we joyfully proclaim:

Alternative Openings for Prefaces

- 1 It is indeed right and fitting,
it is our duty and leads to our salvation,
to thank you, holy Father, at all times and in all places:
(through Jesus Christ who is our Lord).
- 2 It is indeed right to give you thanks,
it is fitting to glorify you, holy Father:
(through Jesus Christ who is our Lord).
- 3 It is indeed right and fitting
to thank and bless and praise you always,
almighty and eternal God:
(through Jesus Christ who is our Lord).
- 4 It is indeed right and fitting,
Lord almighty, everlasting God,
to thank you for all your benefits
and to proclaim your power:
(through Jesus Christ who is our Lord).
- 5 It is indeed right and fitting, almighty Father,
to proclaim our hymns of praise to you:
(through Jesus Christ who is our Lord).
- 6 It is indeed right and fitting,
it is a help to our salvation,
to thank and praise you,
Lord, heavenly Father, almighty and merciful God:
(through Jesus Christ who is our Lord).
- 7 It is indeed right and fitting,
that heaven and earth should praise you, O God:
(through Jesus Christ who is our Lord).
- 8 It is indeed right and fitting,
it is our duty and leads to our salvation,
to thank you always for your great love,
merciful Father, almighty God,
King of everlasting glory:
(through Jesus Christ who is our Lord).
- 9 It is indeed right and fitting,
it is our duty and leads to our salvation,
to glorify you without ceasing,
and to thank you always,
almighty, everlasting God:
(through Jesus Christ who is our Lord).

Alternative Conclusions to Prefaces

- 1 And, therefore, we praise you,
together with all the Angels,
on this joyful festival, as we proclaim:
- 2 And, therefore, Lord, we thank you,
and with the Angels celebrate your glory, as we proclaim:
- 3 And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints, as we joyfully proclaim:
- 4 And, therefore, Lord, we praise you,
in union with the choirs of Angels,
as we joyfully proclaim:
- 5 And, therefore, with the countless company of Angels,
we praise and glorify you, as we proclaim:
- 6 And, therefore, we sing your praises,
with all the company of Angels and Saints,
as we ceaselessly proclaim:
- 7 And, therefore, we praise you,
with all the Angels and Saints, for ever proclaiming:
- 8 And, therefore, with all the heavenly court,
we on earth worship your greatness,
and never cease proclaiming:
- 9 And, therefore, heaven and earth together
sing a hymn of adoration,
and with the armies of Angels,
we too praise you without ceasing, as we proclaim:
- 10 And, therefore, with all the armies of Angels,
we sing our hymn of homage,
now and for ever proclaiming:
- 11 The choirs of Angels and all the court of heaven
sing a hymn of praise to your glory,
and ceaselessly proclaim:
- 12 Heaven and earth, Angels and Archangels,
glorify and praise him,
for ever proclaiming:
- 13 Through Christ the armies of Angels
who rejoice in your presence for ever,
praise and adore your majesty.
Let our voices blend with theirs, we entreat you,
as we joyfully proclaim:

Solemn Blessings

These blessings may be used instead of the usual form of blessing at the end of Mass. After the salutation The Lord be with you, the deacon (the priest himself if there is no deacon) invites the people by saying Bow down for the Blessing or similar words. The priest extends his hands over the people while saying the formula of the solemn blessing.

ADVENT

You believe in the first Advent of God's only-begotten Son.
You look forward to his second coming.
May he who is all powerful and full of mercy,
make you holy by this Advent celebration
and enrich you with his blessing.

R/ Amen.

May he enable you in your daily life
to be firm in faith,
joyful in hope,
and fruitful in charity.

R/ Amen.

As you find joy in the thought
of your Saviour's coming in the flesh,
so may you know the everlasting happiness
which will be yours
when he comes again in glory.

R/ Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit,
come down on you,
and remain with you always.

R/ Amen.

CHRISTMAS

The world's darkness has been put to flight
by the Incarnation of God's Son.
This holy night (day) has been made radiant
by his glorious birth.
May God whose love is infinite

drive away from you the darkness of sin
and enlighten your hearts with the beams of goodness.

R/ Amen.

He decreed that the glorious news of his saving birth
should be proclaimed by an angel to the shepherds.
May he so fill you with heavenly joy
that you also may proclaim the glad tidings.

R/ Amen.

By his incarnation
he joined earth and heaven together.
May he fill you with his peace and goodwill,
and unite you with the Church Triumphant in heaven.

R/ Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit,
come down on you,
and remain with you always.

R/ Amen.

NEW YEAR

May God, the source and spring of all happiness,
give you the grace
to be filled with his blessing in all things,
and keep you safe and sound
throughout this year.

R/ Amen.

May God preserve the fulness of your faith,
strengthen your steadfast hope,
and increase your charity,
so that you may persevere to the end
with holy patience.

R/ Amen.

May your days and actions be filled with his peace,
may he listen to your prayers wherever you may be,
and lead you joyfully to eternal life

R/ Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit,
come down on you,
and remain with you always.
R7 Amen.

EPIPHANY

May God, who has called you from darkness
into the fulness of light,
fill you with his blessing,
and make you steadfast in faith, hope and charity.
R7 Amen.

On this day Christ showed himself to the world
as the light shining in darkness:
may he enable you who follow him in faith,
to be a light for all men.
R7 Amen.

The Magi sought Christ the Lord
as they followed the star.
With great joy they found him who is light from light.
May you do likewise,
when your earthly course is run.
R7 Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit,
come down on you,
and remain with you always.
R7 Amen.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR I

(Numbers 6, 24-26)

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
R7 Amen.

May he make his face to shine upon you
and show you mercy.
R7 Amen.

May the light of his countenance shine upon you
and give you his peace.

R/ Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit,
come down on you,
and remain with you always.

R/ Amen.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR II

(Philippians 4, 7)

May the peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

R/ Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit,
come down on you,
and remain with you always.

R/ Amen.